

In the Matter of the Suspension or Revocation )  
of the Educator Certificate of )  
Lance A. Diefenderfer )  
Certificate 176692 )

## SUMMARY OF THE CASE

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Lance A. Diefenderfer holds a valid South Carolina certificate and has over eleven years of teaching and administrative experience with the Greenville County School District. For the 2006-07 school year, Mr. Diefenderfer was assigned to an assistant principal position at Southside High School. Mr. Diefenderfer resigned from his employment with the District on September 15, 2006, after being confronted with allegations that he had an inappropriate relationship with a female student, as evidenced by letters and notes of a personal nature Mr. Diefenderfer sent to the student. Mr. Diefenderfer was

subsequently arrested and charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. The State Board finds that the information presented supports its conclusion that just cause exists to suspend the educator certificate of Lance Diefenderfer for a period commencing retroactively on September 15, 2006, through June 30, 2008. Accordingly, the State Board issues this Consent Order of Suspension, with the understanding that if Mr. Diefenderfer wishes to have his certificate reinstated at the conclusion of the period of suspension, he must: 1) submit verification from a licensed mental health counselor that he has successfully completed or is continuing a course of counseling as determined by the counselor; 2) provide documentation that the criminal charge pending against him has been resolved, that any court-ordered requirements have all been satisfied, and that no additional criminal charges have been filed; and 3) appear before the State Board for a character fitness review.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ John E. Tindal  
John E. Tindal, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
February 14, 2007

I, Lance A. Diefenderfer, S.C. Educator Certificate 176692, do hereby agree to this Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on February 14, 2007.

/S/ Lance A. Diefenderfer  
Lance A. Diefenderfer

01/12/07  
Date